

REMARKS

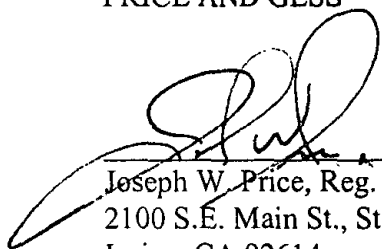
The corrections to the specification and claims are in accordance with a Rule 34 Amendment submitted during the prosecution of the International Application and to remove multiple dependencies.. Newly drafted Claims 60-90 are within the scope of the original invention and do not add any new subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this amendment.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

Very truly yours,

PRICE AND GESS



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The paragraph beginning on page 2, line 11 has been amended as follows:

A discharge gas, such as a mixture of neon and xenon, is normally enclosed into the discharge spaces 2200 at a pressure of around 500 Torr (6.65×10^4 Pa).

The paragraph beginning on page 2, line 14, has been amended as follows:

In practice, however, such conventional PDPs have not always been able to achieve satisfactory luminance. In order to improve luminance, it is considered necessary to enclose the discharge gas inside the discharge spaces 2200 at an internal pressure exceeding 500 Torr (6.65×10^4 Pa).

The paragraph beginning on page 2, line 19, has been amended as follows:

-- However, with the internal pressure in the discharge spaces 2200 is raised to 760 Torr (1.01×10^5 Pa) or 1000 Torr (1.33×10^5 Pa), for example, gaps are generated between the barrier ribs 2103 formed on the back glass plate 2101 and the front substrate 2000, while the front and back substrates 2000 and 2100 bulge outwards. This means that neighboring discharge spaces 2200 are no longer effectively divided by the barrier ribs 2103, causing the display performance of the PDP to deteriorate.--.

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1, has been amended as follows:

--Even if the internal pressure is set at 760 Torr (1.01×10^5 Pa) or less, the barrier ribs 2103 are not connected to the front substrate 2100, so that external vibrations or vibrations caused by driving the PDP itself bring the barrier ribs 2103 and the front substrate 2000 repeatedly into contact, generating noise.

The paragraph beginning on page 4, line 26, has been amended as follows:

To fulfil the above first object, a display panel manufacturing method, comprising an application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of a pair of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been applied to the barrier ribs is provided. The application process includes a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a past-like bonding agent having an even surface over a substrate having an even surface; and a connecting step for simultaneously bringing a top of each barrier rib down into contact with the bonding agent layer, while regulating a distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and the barrier ribs.

A display panel manufacturing method may further include an application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of a pair of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates in opposition and connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been applied to the barrier ribs. The application process includes a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a paste-like bonding agent having an even surface so as to embed a position regulating member that regulates positions of the barrier ribs within the layer, the position regulating member being arranged on a substrate having an even surface; and a connecting step for bringing a top of each barrier rib down into contact with the position regulating member to apply the bonding agent simultaneously to the tops of all of the barrier ribs while regulating a distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and the barrier ribs.

Furthermore, a display panel manufacturing method may include an application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of a pair of substrates in opposition and connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that

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has been applied to the barrier ribs. The application process includes a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a paste-like bonding agent having a curved surface so as to embed a position regulating member that regulates positions of the barrier ribs within the layer, the position regulating member being arranged on a substrate having a curved surface; and a connecting step for bringing a part of each barrier rib top down into contact with the position regulating member, and then to move the position regulating member along a length of the barrier ribs to apply the bonding agent to the tops of all of the barrier ribs while regulating a distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and the barrier ribs [a bonding agent holding process for having a bond holding member hold a paste-like bond to form a surface; and a bonding agent applying process for applying the bonding agent to almost an entire top surface of each barrier rib into contact with the bonding agent layer, while regulating a degree of contact between the bonding agent layer and the barrier ribs].

The paragraph beginning on page 5, line 15, has been amended as follows:

[In this invention] In this way, the invention aligns barrier rib tops and the bonding agent arranged on the barrier rib tops [are aligned] using surface tension created on the surface of the barrier ribs by bringing the barrier rib tops and the surface of a bonding paste layer into the appropriate degree of contact. This method is used rather than a screen plate with an aperture pattern like that used in screen-printing. As a result, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, even if the barrier rib tops are not strictly linear, and form wavy lines.

The paragraph beginning on page 7, line 15, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 7, line 26, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 8, line 19, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 8, line 26, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 7, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 20, has been deleted.

A paragraph has been added before the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 23:

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 25, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 10, line 4, has been amended as follows:

--The position regulating member [means] may be made from wire rods, which are either interwoven or lined up precisely. The position regulating member may also be composed of indentations and protrusions formed on the surface of [the bonding agent holding member] a flat substrate, or may be a plurality of half-cylinders, the barrier rib tops being brought into contact with the curved surface of the half-cylinders.

The paragraph beginning on page 11, line 16, is amended as follows:

Also in order to achieve the above first object, a display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition, via a bonding agent, which has been applied to a plurality of barrier ribs formed in a specific pattern on at least one of the substrates is provided. The display panel manufacturing method includes a barrier rib pattern forming process including a first step for laminating the barrier rib forming material and the bonding agent by forming layers of certain thicknesses; a second step for simultaneously pressing down

the laminated barrier rib forming material and bonding agent using a same pattern-forming member to form the specific pattern; and a third step for transferring a molded pattern formed in the barrier rib forming material and bonding agent to the substrate on which the barrier ribs are to be formed [for forming a barrier rib pattern by pressing a first pattern-forming member onto the barrier rib forming material, the barrier rib forming material being of a set thickness, and a bonding agent pattern forming process using a pattern-forming member having the same pattern as the pattern-forming member used in the barrier rib pattern forming process].

The paragraph beginning on page 12, line 4, is amended as follows:

--Here, the barrier rib tops and the bonding agent arranged on the barrier tops are aligned by forming the pattern for the barrier ribs and the bonding agent simultaneously [are brought into contact by using a pattern forming member with the same pattern to form the pattern for the barrier ribs and the bonding agent]. This method is used rather than a screen plate with an aperture pattern like that used in screen-printing. As a result, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, even if the barrier rib tops are not strictly linear, and form wavy lines. This produces a display panel with greater bonding strength.--

The paragraph beginning on page 12, line 13, has been deleted.

The paragraph on page 12, line 23, has been deleted:

The paragraph beginning on page 13, line 17, has been amended as follows:

Also, in order to achieve the above first object, a display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent arranged on a plurality of barrier ribs formed in a specific pattern on at least one of the substrates is provided.

The display panel manufacturing method includes an indentation forming process for forming at least one indentation in a center of each barrier rib top, when viewed widthwise [on a top of each barrier rib]; and a bonding agent arranging process for arranging the bonding agent in the indentations.

The paragraph beginning on page 13, line 26, has been amended as follows:

The barrier rib tops and the bonding agent arranged on the barrier rib tops are here aligned by indentations formed in advance in the central area of the barrier rib tops. This method is used rather than a screen plate with an aperture pattern like that used in screen-printing. As a result, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, even if the barrier rib tops are not strictly linear, and form wavy lines.--

The paragraph beginning on page 15, line 8, has been amended as follows:

--In order to achieve the first object, a display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent arranged on a plurality of barrier ribs formed in a specific pattern on at least one of the substrates is provided. A process for arranging the bonding agent on the barrier ribs includes an attaching process for attaching a bonding agent positioning member to the barrier ribs; a first removing process for removing parts of the bonding agent positioning member attached to the barrier rib tops at positions corresponding to the specific pattern, to form a groove along each barrier rib top; a bonding agent filling process for filling the grooves with the bonding agent, while maintaining the relative positions of the grooves and the barrier rib tops; and a second removing process for removing the remaining bonding agent positioning member [removing process for forming holes in the first member at positions corresponding to tops of the barrier ribs; a bonding agent filling

process for filling the holes in the first member with the bonding agent; and a second removing process for removing the remaining first member].

The paragraph beginning on page 15, line 20, has been amended as follows:

-- Here the barrier rib tops and the bonding agent arranged on the barrier rib tops are aligned based on a pattern formed so that it conforms to the barrier rib pattern. This method is used rather than a screen plate with an aperture pattern like that used in conventional screen-printing techniques. As a result, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, even if the barrier rib tops are not strictly linear, and form wavy lines. This enables a display panel with greater bonding strength to be obtained. Further more, the bonding agent is prevented from flowing off the barrier rib tops by the bonding agent positioning [first] member, until the bonding agent positioning [first] member is removed.

The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 6, has been amended as follows:

The adhesion process is performed by applying the bonding agent positioning [first] member to the barrier ribs after a connecting layer is formed on either the barrier ribs or the bonding agent positioning [first] member.

The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 9, has been amended as follows::

The first removing process removes parts of the bonding agent positioning member attached to the barrier rib tops by irradiating the surface of the bonding agent positioning [forms holes by irradiating the surface of the first] member with a laser.

The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 11, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 18, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 17, line 6, has been amended as follows:

The above first object may also be achieved by a display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent applied to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of the substrates. A process for arranging the bonding agent on the barrier ribs includes an arranging process for bringing [a] an already formed bond sheet [made by forming a sheet of bonding agent in advance,] into contact with tops of the barrier ribs; a transfer process for transferring the bonding agent to the parts of the barrier rib in contact with the bond sheet by pressing the bond sheet onto the barrier rib tops; and a removing process for separating the bond sheet from the barrier ribs.

The paragraph beginning on page 18, line 3, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 18, line 11, has been amended as follows:

The above first object may also be achieved by a display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition via a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of the substrates, and a bonding agent applied to the barrier ribs. The display panel manufacturing method includes an applying process for applying the bonding agent to an area on each barrier rib that is at least as large as a top of each barrier rib; a hardening process for selectively hardening parts of the attached bonding agent positioned in a central area of the barrier rib tops, when viewed widthwise; and a removing process for removing the parts of the bonding agent that-have not been hardened.--.

The paragraph beginning on page 18, line 21, has been amended as follows:

Here, the application area for the bonding agent is not established from the outset as in screen-printing. Instead, the bonding agent is arranged on the barrier rib tops, covering an area

than is wider than the barrier rib tops. [Parts] Central parts of the arranged bonding agent are then hardened and the parts that still remain soft are selectively removed, leaving the bonding agent arranged appropriately along the barrier rib tops. As a result, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, enabling a display panel with greater bonding strength to be obtained. If the accuracy with which parts of the bonding agent are hardened can be improved, the bonding agent can be applied evenly along the narrow barrier rib tops using a simple technique, even if the barrier rib tops are not strictly linear, and form wavy lines. This enables a display panel with even greater bonding strength to be obtained.

The paragraph beginning on page 19, line 11, has been amended as follows:

In the applying process, a compound of bonding agent and photo-hardening resin is applied to the barrier rib tops; and in the hardening process, central parts of the applied compound are exposed to light, causing the exposed parts of the compound to harden.

The paragraph beginning on page 19, line 23, has been amended as follows:

The bonding agent is arranged on the barrier ribs using a compound including a [first] substance which is more difficult to melt than the bonding agent.

The paragraph beginning on page 19, line 26, has been amended as follows:

The [first] substance supports the load of the front substrate, preventing bonding agent melted when the substrates are sealed from being pressed down by the weight of the front substrate and seeping into the cell area. This stops the panel from being fired with bonding agent seepage inside the cell area.

The paragraph beginning on page 20, line 5, is amended as follows:

Next, to achieve the above second object, the present invention also includes a gas discharge panel, including a first substrate, on which a plurality of pairs of electrodes extending in a first direction, and a dielectric layer covering the electrodes have been formed, and a second substrate, on which a plurality of barrier ribs, extending in a second direction differing from the first direction, are formed in opposition to the dielectric layer and the electrode pairs so that the barrier ribs are separated from the dielectric layer and the electrode pairs. Here the dielectric layer and the barrier ribs are at least partially connected via a bonding agent. The panel is structured such that discharge mainly occurs in parts of the panel separated from the positions where the barrier ribs and the dielectric layer are connected.

The paragraph beginning on page 22, line 14, has been amended as follows:

Gas should preferably be enclosed in the space between the first and second substrates of the gas discharge panel at a pressure of not less than 760 Torr (1.01×10^5 Pa).

The paragraph beginning on page 31, line 7, has been amended as follows:

In the present embodiment, the pressure of the enclosed inert gas is set at a high level of at least 760 Torr (1.01×10^5 Pa), and at least as great as atmospheric pressure.

The paragraph beginning on page 62, line 10, has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on page 68, line 9, has been amended as follows:

The inside of a PDP manufactured based on the above embodiments was pressurized by the introduction of air, and the bonding strength determined by the pressure value obtained at the time the panel exploded. The resulting value was found to be 6100 Torr (8.11×10^5 Pa).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 30, 32, 3, 34, and 37 have been cancelled.

The claims have been as follows:

1 1. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, comprising an application
2 process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of a pair
3 of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates in opposition and
4 connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been to the barrier ribs,
5 wherein the application process includes:

6 a bonding agent [holding process for having a bond holding member hold] layer forming
7 step for forming a layer of a paste-like [bond to form a] bonding agent having an even surface
8 over a substrate having an even surface; and

9 [a bonding agent applying process for applying the bonding agent to almost an entire top
10 surface of each barrier rib by bringing virtually the entire top surface of each barrier rib into
11 contact with the bonding agent layer, while regulating a degree of contact between] a connecting
12 step for simultaneously bringing a top of each barrier rib down into contact with the bonding
13 agent layer, while regulating a distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and
14 the barrier ribs.

1 2. (Amended) [The] A display panel manufacturing method, comprising an
2 application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least
3 one of a pair of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates in
4 opposition and connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been
5 applied to the barrier ribs, wherein the application process includes:

6 a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a paste-like bonding agent
7 having an even surface so as to embed a position regulating member that regulates positions of
8 the barrier ribs within the layer, the position regulating member being arranged on a substrate
9 having an even surface; and
10 a connecting step for bringing a top of each barrier rib down into contact with the
11 position regulating member to apply the bonding agent simultaneously to the tops of all of the
12 barrier ribs while regulating a distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and
13 the barrier ribs [process of Claim 1, wherein the bonding agent applying process includes:
14 a first step for arranging the substrate on which the barrier ribs are formed and the
15 bonding agent in opposition, with a gap between the barrier rib tops and the bonding agent; and
16 a second step for regulating the degree of contact between the barrier rib tops and the
17 bonding agent by controlling the distance between the barrier ribs and the bonding agent].

1 3. (Amended) [The] A display panel manufacturing method, comprising an
2 application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least
3 one of a pair of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates in
4 opposition and connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been
5 applied to the barrier ribs, wherein the application process includes:

6 a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a paste-like bonding agent
7 having a curved surface so as to embed a position regulating member that regulates positions of
8 the barrier ribs within the layer, the position regulating member being arranged on a substrate
9 having a curved surface; and

10 a connecting step for bringing a part of each barrier rib top down into contact with the
11 position regulating member and then to move the position regulating member along a length of

12 the barrier ribs to apply the bonding agent to the tops of all of the barrier ribs while regulating a
13 distance between the upper surface of the bonding agent layer and the barrier ribs [of Claim 1,
14 wherein the bonding agent applying process includes:

15 a third step for placing the substrate on which the barrier ribs are formed and the bonding
16 agent in opposition, with a gap between the barrier rib tops and the bonding agent;

17 a fourth step for bringing one part of each barrier rib into contact with the bonding agent
18 by controlling the distance between the barrier rib and the bonding agent to a distance at which
19 the bonding agent is applied to the barrier rib tops as a result of surface tension; and

20 a fifth step for bringing the surfaces of the bonding agent and virtually the entire surface
21 of each barrier rib top into contact by altering the relative positions of the bonding agent and the
22 barrier ribs while maintaining the distance between the barrier ribs and the bonding agent to a
23 distance at which the bonding agent continues to be applied to the barrier ribs as a result of
24 continuing surface tension].

1 4 . (Amended) [The] A display panel manufacturing method, comprising an
2 application process for applying a bonding agent to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least
3 one of a pair of substrates, and a connection process for arranging the pair of substrates in
4 opposition and connecting the pair of substrates together via the bonding agent that has been
5 applied to the barrier ribs, wherein the application process- includes:

6 a bonding agent layer forming step for forming a layer of a paste-like bonding agent
7 having an even surface over a substrate having an even surface; and

8 a connecting step for momentarily bringing one part of each barrier rib top into contact
9 with the bonding agent layer, and then altering the relative positions of the barrier ribs and the
10 bonding agent layer while maintaining a distance between the barrier ribs and the bonding agent

11 layer such that the bonding agent is applied to all the barrier rib tops as a result of surface tension
12 [of Claim 1, wherein the bonding agent applying process further comprises:

13 a sixth step for placing the substrate on which the barrier ribs are formed, and the
14 bonding agent in opposition, with a gap between the barrier rib tops and the bonding agent; and
15 a seventh step for bringing the barrier ribs into contact with the bonding agent using a
16 regulating means for regulating the position of the barrier rib tops in relation to the bonding
17 agent].

1 5 (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim [4] 1, wherein the
2 relative positions of the bonding agent and the barrier ribs are altered with the barrier rib tops in
3 contact with the bonding agent.

1 7. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of [any one of Claims 1 to
2 5] Claim I, wherein the bonding agent applying process is repeated a plurality of times.

1 12. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim [4] 2, wherein the
2 regulating means is formed from interwoven wire rods.

1 13. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim [4] 2, wherein the
2 regulating means is indentations and protrusions formed on a surface of a flat substrate.

1 14. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim [4] 2, wherein the
2 position regulating member is a plurality of half-cylinders, and the barrier rib tops are brought
3 into contact with the curved surface of the half-cylinders.

1 15 (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of [any one of Claims 1 to
2 5, Claims 8, and 10, and Claims 12 to 14] Claim 1, further including a process for leveling the
3 barrier ribs across almost the entire surface of the substrate so that all the barrier rib tops are at
4 approximately the same height.

1 21. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of
2 substrates arranged in opposition, via a bonding agent, which has been applied to a plurality of
3 barrier ribs formed in a specific pattern on at least one of the substrates, the display panel
4 manufacturing method comprising a barrier rib pattern forming process that includes:

5 a first step for laminating the barrier rib forming material and the bonding agent by
6 forming layers of certain thicknesses;

7 a second step for simultaneously pressing down the laminated barrier rib forming
8 material and bonding agent using a same pattern-forming member to form the specific pattern;
9 and

10 a third step for transferring a molded pattern formed in the barrier rib forming material
11 and bonding agent to the substrate on which the barrier ribs are to be formed [a barrier rib pattern
12 forming process for forming a barrier rib pattern by pressing a first pattern-forming member onto
13 the barrier rib forming material, the barrier rib forming material being of a set thickness, and
14 a bonding agent pattern forming process using a pattern-forming member having the
15 same pattern as the pattern-forming member used in the barrier rib pattern forming process].

1 24. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of
2 substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent arranged on a plurality of barrier ribs
3 formed in a specific pattern on at least one of the substrates, the display panel manufacturing
4 method comprising:

5 an indentation forming process for forming at least one indentation [on a top] in a centre
6 of each barrier rib top, when viewed widthwise; and

7 a bonding agent arranging process for arranging the bonding agent in the indentations.

1 26. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing process of [one of Claims 24 and
2 25] Claim 24, wherein the bonding agent arranging process is performed by injecting the
3 bonding agent into the indentations using a nozzle.

1 27. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of
2 substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent arranged on a plurality of barrier ribs
3 formed in A specific pattern on at least one of the substrates, wherein a process for arranging the
4 bonding agent on the barrier ribs includes:

5 an attaching process for attaching a bonding agent positioning member to the barrier ribs;
6 a first removing process for removing parts of the bonding agent positioning member
7 attached to the barrier rib top's at positions corresponding to the specific pattern, to form a
8 groove along each barrier rib top;

9 a bonding agent filling process for filling the grooves with the bonding agent, while
10 maintaining the relative positions of the grooves and the barrier rib tops [a first member to the
11 barrier ribs;

12 a first removing process for forming holes in the first member at positions corresponding
13 to tops of the barrier ribs;
14 a bonding agent filling process for filling the holes in the first member with the bonding
15 agent]; and
16 a second removing process for removing the remaining bonding agent positioning
17 member.

1 28. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim 27, wherein the
2 [adhesion] attaching process is performed by [applying the first] attaching the bonding agent
3 positioning member to the barrier ribs after [a] an even connecting layer is formed on either the
4 barrier ribs or the [first] bonding agent positioning member.

1 29. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of [one of Claims 27 and
2 28] Claim 27, wherein the first removing process removes parts of the bonding agent positioning
3 member attached to the tops of the barrier ribs by irradiating the surface of the bonding agent
4 positioning member with a laser.

1 35. Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of [one of Claims 27 to 24]
2 Claim 27, wherein the second removing process removes the remainder of the bonding agent
3 positioning member using one of peeling, melting and sublimation.

1 36. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of
2 substrates arranged in opposition via a bonding agent applied to a plurality of barrier ribs formed
3 on at least one of the substrates, wherein a process for arranging the bonding agent on the barrier
4 ribs includes:

an arranging process for bringing [a] an already formed bond sheet[, made by forming a sheet of bonding agent in advance,] into contact with tops of the barrier ribs;

a transfer process for transferring the bonding agent to the parts of the barrier rib in contact with the bond sheet by pressing the bond sheet onto the barrier rib tops; and

a removing process for separating the bond sheet from the barrier ribs.

38. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of Claim [37] 36, wherein the transfer process heats the parts of the bond sheet in contact with the barrier rib tops.

39. (Amended) A display panel manufacturing method, for connecting a pair of substrates arranged in opposition via a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at least one of the substrates, and a bonding agent applied to the barrier ribs, the display panel manufacturing method comprising:

an applying process for applying the bonding agent to an area on each barrier rib that is at least as large as a top of each barrier rib;

a hardening process for selectively hardening parts of the attached bonding agent positioned in a central area of the barrier rib tops, when viewed widthwise; and

a removing process for removing the parts of the bonding agent that have not been hardened.

43. (Amended) The display panel manufacturing method of [any one of Claims 1, 20, 21, 24, 27, 35 and 39] Claim 1, wherein the bonding agent is arranged on the barrier ribs using a compound including a substance which is more difficult to melt the bonding agent.

1 44. (Amended) A gas discharge panel, including a first substrate, on which a
2 plurality of pairs of electrodes extending in a first direction, and a dielectric layer covering the
3 electrodes have been formed, and a second substrate, on which a plurality of barrier ribs,
4 extending in a second direction differing from the first direction, are formed in opposition to the
5 dielectric layer and the electrode pairs so that the barrier ribs are separated from the dielectric
6 layer and the electrode pairs, wherein the dielectric layer and the barrier ribs are at least partially
7 connected via a bonding agent; and

8 the panel is structured such that discharge mainly occurs in parts of the panel separated
9 from the positions where the barrier ribs and the dielectric layer are connected.

1 52. (Amended) The gas discharge panel of [any one of Claims 44 to 51] Claim 44,
2 wherein gas is enclosed at a pressure of no less than [760 torr] 1.01×10^5 Pa in a space between
3 the first and second substrate.

1 56. (Amended) The display panel of [any one of Claims 53 to 55] Claim 53, wherein
2 most of an area near the top parts of the barrier ribs is connected to a substrate.

1 57. (Amended) The display panel of [any one of Claims 53 to 55] Claim 53, wherein
2 the display panel is a gas discharge panel in which gas is enclosed between the pair of substrates,
3 and the pressure at which the gas is enclosed is set at no less than [760 torr] 1.01×10^5 Pa.

1 58. (Amended) The display panel of Claim 56, wherein the display panel is a gas
2 discharge panel in which gas is enclosed between the pair of substrates, and the pressure at
3 which the gas is enclosed is set at no less than [760 torr] 1.01×10^5 Pa.

1 59. (Amended) A display panel, formed from a pair of substrates arranged in
2 opposition and connected via a bonding agent applied to a plurality of barrier ribs formed on at
3 least one of the substrates, the bonding agent being applied at least part of each barrier rib,
4 wherein the bonding agent includes a [first] substance which is difficult to melt than the bonding
5 agent.

Claims 60-90 have been added.

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